



THE CITY OF HICKORY ANNOUNCES A FUTURE SPLASHPAD AT KIWANIS PARK

Parks and Recreation staff, Kiwanis Clubs members, and Mayor Wright at the press conference



Mayor Rudy Wright and the City of Hickory announced a future Splashpad at Kiwanis Park at a press conference on Wednesday, December 9.

Kiwanis Park, which is also the home of the Zahra Baker All Children's Playground and Treehouse, located at 805 6th SE Street, Hickory, NC 28602, will have a new addition to the lower playground in 2016. The City of Hickory and two local Kiwanis Clubs, Hickory Kiwanis Club and Western Catawba County Kiwanis Club, have partnered to build a splash pad at the lower playground at Kiwanis Park.

"This will be the nicest splash park in the area," said Mayor Rudy Wright. "The project will be funded up to \$300,000 between the City and Kiwanis. I would like to see the Splashpad completed by the summer. We have to get a lot done in a hurry. We're through with the planning; and we're looking at January for the groundbreaking."

"It is an inclusive location, and accepting of the diversity in the community. We truly believe that it will attract a lot of kids," said Steve Aaron, representative of the Kiwanis Club.

"Kiwanis International celebrates its 100 year anniversary in 2015 and our club was looking for a way to celebrate the anniversary that would have large impact on our local community," said David Parsons, Immediate Past President, Kiwanis Club of Western Catawba County. "When the idea of both local Kiwanis clubs, partnering with the City of Hickory, was presented to us, it seemed like a perfect way to accomplish that." Parsons added, "We want to do something for the children. We are proud to be part of something than will have a lasting effect for the children."

"Our goal is to raise \$100,000 to assist with the building of the splash pad at Kiwanis Park," added Parsons. "Since our clubs were involved in the fundraising effort for the Zahra Baker All-Children's Playground at Kiwanis Park, this seemed like a natural extension of that effort. The \$100,000 goal seemed like it fit well with the celebration of our 100 year anniversary. Our hope is that the splash pad will be used and enjoyed for many years to come by children and adults of all ages."

"The Hickory Kiwanis Club is delighted to participate in fundraising for the Splash Pad at Kiwanis Park," said Bruce Blackburn, Chairman Splash Pad Committee Hickory Kiwanis Club. "We are very proud of the Zahra Baker Playground at Kiwanis Park and feel the addition of the Splash Pad will enhance the play experience for the children of our City. "

"We looked at a lot of splash parks in other cities before we made a recommendation," said David Crosby with the City of Hickory's Parks and Recreation Department. "We're proud of what we're doing in Hickory."

"The cooperation between the city and Kiwanis on Zahra Baker All Children's Playground was fantastic," said Steve Aaron, Kiwanis Past President. "We look forward to this partnership, and we plan to take our fund-raising to the public to give people an opportunity to share in this exciting project."

HICKORY CITY COUNCIL

February 2 & 16 7 p.m.

Julian G. Whitener
Municipal Building (City Hall)

Go to www.HickoryNC.gov, under
City Council to review
agendas and minutes and to view
the most recent meeting.

Check out events going
on at a just a few of the
City's brand partner
locations that bring great
culture to the City:

Hickory Community Theatre
www.HickoryTheatre.org

Hickory Museum of Art
www.HickoryArt.org

Catawba Science Center
www.CatawbaScience.org

For more area events:
www.HickoryEventsCalendar.com

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Hickory Fire Department Citizens' Fire Academy



Join the Citizens' Fire Academy to
learn about the equipment, services,
and duties of Hickory Fire
Department. Observe fire and
rescue demonstrations, and
participate in hands-on training
experiences with HFD firefighters.

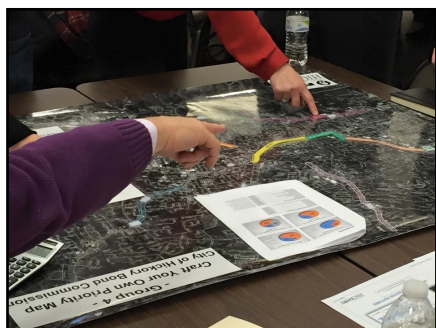
Applications available at www.hickorync.gov
or at any Hickory Fire Station.

The Citizens' Fire
Academy is open to all
Hickory residents and
business employees who
are at least 18 years of
age. The ten week
Academy begins March
17, 2016 and will be held
on Thursday nights from
6:00 - 9:00 PM.



Contact the Hickory Fire
Department at 828.323.7420
for more information.

CRAFTING HICKORY



The City of Hickory's Bond Implementation Commission has been working hard, meeting with Freese and Nichols, City staff, and City Council, bringing recommended preferences to the City Council in December 2015 for final decisions in January 2016 on how to proceed on the bond projects.

Coming soon is the **Crafting Hickory** magazine insert in the Hickory Daily Record. Publish date is **February 28**. Make sure to pick up your copy to stay on top of all the past year's information about bond projects, private partnerships, and more.

